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UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
BUREAU OF AGRICULTURAL ECONOMICS
Land Economics Division



Bulletin 43

BULLETIN OF OUTSTANDING FEDERAL AND STATE LEGISLATION AFFECTING LAND
USE DURING THE PERIOD OF JANUARY 15, 1939 to FEBRUARY 2, 1939.

(Primarily for the information of Bureau of Agricultural Economics personnel and the Farm Security Administration and collaborating offices and agencies.)

LEGISLATURES IN SESSION

<u>State</u>	<u>Date Convened</u>	<u>State</u>	<u>Date Convened</u>
Alabama	January 10, 1939	New Hampshire	January 4, 1939
Arizona	January 9, 1939	New Jersey	January 10, 1939
Arkansas	January 9, 1939	New Mexico	January 10, 1939
California	January 2, 1939	New York	January 4, 1939
Colorado	January 4, 1939	North Carolina	January 4, 1939
Connecticut	January 4, 1939	North Dakota	January 3, 1939
Delaware	January 3, 1939	Ohio	January 2, 1939
Georgia	January 19, 1939	Oklahoma	January 3, 1939
Idaho	January 2, 1939	Oregon	January 9, 1939
Illinois	January 4, 1939	Pennsylvania	January 3, 1939
Indiana	January 5, 1939	Rhode Island	January 3, 1939
Iowa	January 9, 1939	South Carolina	January 10, 1939
Kansas	January 10, 1939	South Dakota	January 3, 1939
Maine	January 4, 1939	Tennessee	January 2, 1939
Maryland	January 4, 1939	Texas	January 10, 1939
Massachusetts	January 4, 1939	Utah	January 9, 1939
Michigan	January 4, 1939	Vermont	January 4, 1939
Minnesota	January 3, 1939	Washington	January 9, 1939
Missouri	January 4, 1939	West Virginia	January 11, 1939
Montana	January 2, 1939	Wisconsin	January 11, 1939
Nebraska	January 3, 1939	Wyoming	January 10, 1939
Nevada	January 16, 1939		

AGRICULTURE

H. R. 2414. Mr. Englebright. January 12, 1939. To Committee on Agriculture.

To enable the Secretary of Agriculture to meet emergencies caused by tree-killing insects on national forests and authorizing an appropriation of \$500,000 for such emergency.

H. R. 2422. Mr. Jones of Texas. January 12, 1939. To Committee on Agriculture.

To authorize the appropriation of \$500,000 annually to provide for the further development of Cooperative Extension work. The sums appropriated pursuant to this Act shall be in addition to sums appropriated under the Act of May 8, 1914.

H. R. 2955. Mr. Byrns of Tennessee. January 20, 1939. To Committee on Agriculture.

To authorize an appropriation of such sums as may be necessary for the establishment (including procurement of a site), equipping, maintenance and operation of an experiment station in the dark-fired tobacco area of Tennessee for the purpose of conducting experiments, investigations, tests and demonstrations of means and methods for prevention, control and eradication of diseases and pests affecting dark-fired tobacco, and for the study of other and different uses to which tobacco and its derivatives and byproducts may be applied.

S. 86. Mr. Frazier. January 4, 1939. To Committee on Agriculture and Forestry. (See also H. R. 2766.)

To establish a "Farmer's and Consumer's Financing Corporation" with a capital stock of \$100,000,000, all of which is to be subscribed by the United States of America. The Corporation may build, buy, lease and operate elevators and storage warehouses, buy and sell agricultural products, act as agent of any person producing or dealing in agricultural products, make advances for the purpose of assisting any person in financing the sale, or exportation and sale of such agricultural products but no money may be advanced or expended outside of the United States.

S. 570. Mr. Frazier. January 12, 1939. To Committee on Agriculture and Forestry. (See also H. R. 2371, 2372, 2373, 2374, 2375, 2376, 2377, 2391.)

Entitled "Agricultural Equality Act."

The Secretary of Agriculture is directed to ascertain and announce (1) average cost of production price, taking into consideration compensation to farm operators, maintenance, and depreciation of soil, equipment and stock, property investment and average yields, on all agricultural products introduced in Interstate Commerce in quantities having a value in excess of \$10,000 per year, (2) estimate the volume of production for domestic consumption, reserve and export. After the beginning of the marketing year all dealers, processors or agencies dealing in Interstate Commerce shall pay to the producers

of such agricultural products not less than such average cost of production price for such agricultural product for domestic consumption. All dealers are to be licensed by the Secretary in accordance with rules and regulations prescribed by him. When a producer delivers a product to a dealer or processor the Secretary shall issue to the producer a receipt showing the quantity and grade of the product. The Secretary may direct the dealers or processors to deliver to him all the reserves and export quantities and he is directed to sell them in the world market to the best advantage. After the marketing year the receipts for reserves and exports are to be redeemed by the Secretary through the Post Office Department in the net amount realized after deducting costs and expenses of handling as determined by the Secretary.

S. 771. Mr. Clark of Idaho. January 17, 1939. To Committee on Agriculture and Forestry.

To authorize an appropriation for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1940 of \$25,000,000 to enable each State to furnish financial assistance for the control and eradication of noxious weeds within such States. This sum is to be made available for making payments to States which have complied with rules and regulations promulgated by the Secretary of Agriculture and with conditions set forth in the Act. The Act prescribes the provisions and operation of a State plan and the procedure for payments to be made the States by the Secretary of the Treasury.

AGRICULTURAL ADJUSTMENT

H. J. Res. 129. Mr. Case of South Dakota. January 24, 1939. To Committee on Agriculture.

To amend section 333 of the Agricultural Adjustment Act of 1938, as amended, by adding "there shall be no reduction in allotments below the adjusted 1928-1937 average acreage for any type of wheat of which there is no surplus."

EMERGENCY CONSERVATION

H. R. 8889. Mr. Pierce. January 10, 1939. To Committee on Labor. (See also S. 3214.)

To amend the Act establishing the Civilian Conservation Corps (50 Stat. 319) to authorize the Director to undertake projects for public road construction or improvement where it is necessary for land development already under way on lands which are for the most part in legal ownership or control of the United States.

EMERGENCY RELIEF

H. R. 2655. Mr. Burdick. January 16, 1939. To Committee on Agriculture.

To provide for cancellation of feed and seed loans heretofore made by the United States Government to farmers now on Federal relief or Works Progress Administration relief, whose liabilities

exceed their assets, claims against farmers where forced collection would prevent them from continuing their usual and regular farming operations, or render them unable to properly protect their families on a decent and humane standard of living.

The procedure is proscribed for obtaining relief from debts, taking oath, penalties and appeals. There is an authorized appropriation of \$65,000,000 for carrying out the purposes of the Act.

FARM CREDIT

H. R. 2389. Mr. Knutson. January 12, 1939. To Committee on Agriculture.

To make permanent the reduced interest rates ($3\frac{1}{2}$ per cent) on Federal Land Bank and Land Bank Commissioner loans, for a period of five years commencing July 1, 1935.

S. J. Res. 20. Mr. Wheeler. January 4, 1939. To Committee on Agriculture and Forestry.

To authorize and direct the Governor of the Farm Credit Administration to cancel all loans made to farmers pursuant to the Act or joint resolution approved subsequent to March 2, 1921.

GRAZING

S. 802. Mr. Hayden. January 19, 1939. To Committee on Agriculture and Forestry.

To authorize the Secretary of Agriculture, through the Forest Service, Soil Conservation Service, Extension Service and other agencies in the Department of Agriculture, to cooperate with the State or Territorial agencies, with those owning or controlling the use of native grasslands and other ranges, in the restoration and development of their productivity. This may be done by furnishing advice, supplying seed and other planting stock whenever complete restoration of the land requires planting. The Department of Agriculture may conduct studies and field surveys as may be necessary. An annual appropriation of the necessary funds is authorized.

HOUSING

H. R. 2399. Mr. Byrns of Tennessee. January 12, 1939. To Committee on Banking and Currency.

To amend the Home Owner's Loan Corporation Act of 1935 to reduce the rate of interest to $3\frac{1}{2}$ per cent on unpaid balances of loans made under the Home Owner's Loan Corporation Act of 1933 as well as new loans and to extend the time of maturity to 25 years.

H. R. 2888. Mr. Steagall. January 19, 1939. To Committee on Banking and Currency.

To authorize the United States Housing Authority to enter

into contracts which provide for annual contributions aggregating not more than \$45,000,000 annually in addition to contracts heretofore authorized by the United States Housing Act of 1937, as amended. The Authority is authorized to issue and sell its obligations in an amount not to exceed \$800,000,000 in addition to the amount authorized by the United States Housing Act of 1937, as amended.

H. R. 3117. Mr. Burdick. January 24, 1939. To Committee on the Judiciary.

To provide for optional cancellation of indebtedness against all homesteads in the United States whenever a home owner residing upon a homestead as defined by local law can prove before a court of competent jurisdiction that the indebtedness against his home, including taxes, is in excess of its present value, the court may make an order establishing (1) the value of the property, (2) the amount of the mortgage with interest, and (3) the amount of taxes due. Upon such application of a home owner the Court shall fix a time and place for hearing on the petition and the creditors shall be served with a copy of the order. The bill sets forth procedure for the hearing and provides for a new mortgage, lien for taxes and payments.

S. 591. Mr. Wagner. January 12, 1939. To Committee on Education and Labor.

To amend the United States Housing Act of 1937 to authorize the Authority to enter into contracts which provide for annual contributions aggregating not more than \$45,000,000 annually in addition to contracts formerly authorized.

S. 628. Mr. Mead. January 16, 1939. To Committee on Banking and Currency.

To amend the Home Owners' Loan Corporation Act of 1933 to allow the Corporation to extend the period of amortization of home loans from fifteen to twenty-five years.

S. 855. Mr. Smathers. January 20, 1939. To Committee on Banking and Currency.

To extend for one year the period within which certain loans may be insured under title I of the National Housing Act, as amended.

INTERSTATE COMMERCE

S. 25. Mr. Truman. January 4, 1939. To Committee on Interstate Commerce.

To prohibit the operation of motor vehicles in interstate commerce by unlicensed operators and prescribing the qualifications for applicants for obtaining such a license.

RIVERS AND HARBORS

H. R. 2405. Mr. Angell. January 12, 1939. To Committee on Interstate and Foreign Commerce.

To amend the Inland Waterways Corporation Act, approved June 3, 1924, as amended, authorizing the Secretary of War to extend the services and operations of the Inland Waterways Corporation to the Columbia River.

H. R. 2408. Mr. Ball. January 12, 1939. To Committee on Rivers and Harbors.

To authorize and direct the Secretary of War to cancel all amounts charged against any person under Section 20 of the River and Harbor Act of March 3, 1899, for expenses incurred by the United States in raising, moving, or otherwise conducting salvage operations with respect to any vessel, boat, water craft, or raft, if such salvage operations were necessitated as a result of the hurricane of September 21, 1938.

ROADS

H. R. 2380. Mr. Kerr. January 12, 1939. To Committee on Roads.

To provide that after June 30, 1939, of the funds available for carrying out the provisions of the Federal Highway Act as amended and supplemented (U. S. C., 1934 Edition, title 23, Ch. 1; Supp. III, title 23, Ch. 1) not less than 50 per cent of the apportionment to any State shall be applied to secondary or feeder roads including farm-to-market roads, rural free delivery mail routes, and public-school-bus routes.

SOIL CONSERVATION

S. 551. Mr. Gillette. January 12, 1939. To Committee on Agriculture and Forestry.

To amend the second paragraph of section 8(d) of the Soil Conservation and Domestic Allotment Act, as amended, to read as follows:

"Any payment under subsection (b) with respect to any farm (except for lands which the Secretary determines should not be utilized for the harvesting of crops but should be permanently used for grazing purposes only) shall, if the number of livestock or poultry kept on such farm, and in the county in which such farm is located, for market, or for the production of livestock or poultry products for market, exceeds the number normally so kept, be made only upon compliance with the following condition: That no part of the land on such farm which is normally used for the production of soil-depleting crops but which, as a condition upon such payment, is not permitted to be so used, shall be used for the production of agricultural commodities for market. Whenever it is determined that within a county, as a whole, there is substantial compliance with the condition provided in this paragraph, no payment with respect to any farm in such county shall be withheld by reason of this paragraph; and no payment with respect to any farm shall be withheld by reason of this paragraph unless it has been determined

that there has not been substantial compliance on such farm with the condition provided in this paragraph. Whenever the Secretary finds that by reason of drought, flood, or other disaster, a shortage of feed exists in any area, he shall so declare, and to the extent and for the period he finds necessary to relieve such shortage, the operation of the condition provided in this paragraph shall be suspended in such area and, if necessary to relieve such shortage, in other areas defined by him."

WATER

H. R. 2652. Mr. Martin of Colorado. January 16, 1939. To Committee on Appropriations.

To appropriate \$195,525,500, for the construction of flood-control dams and reservoirs authorized in the National Flood Control Act of 1936, approved June 22, 1935, and amendments thereto, and included in the Army Engineer's Report of 1939 as ready for construction.

H. R. 2749. Mr. Rankin. January 18, 1939. To Committee on Rivers and Harbors.

To create a corporation entitled "Potomac Valley Authority" similar to the Tennessee Valley Authority. The Authority is authorized to acquire lands, easements, rights-of-way, or other interest in lands which would be affected by the construction of any improvements contemplated in the Act. It may construct or improve dams, reservoirs, transmission lines and power plants, exercise right of eminent domain, sell water or electric power, or other things incident to the development and improvement of navigation, sanitation, water supply, recreation, transportation, and electric power on the Potomac River and its tributaries. An appropriation of \$10,000,000 is authorized for acquisition of lands and rights, preparations of surveys and reports, commencement of construction of essential facilities for the carrying out of the Act.

WILDLIFE

H. Res. 65. Mr. Robertson. January 23, 1939. To Committee on Rules.

To authorize a special committee to investigate all matters pertaining to the replacement and conservation of wildlife and to make the necessary recommendations for legislation.

